

Service Date: July 18, 1978

READING FILE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application)	
of the TOWN OF CHESTER for authority)	DOCKET NO. 6565
to adopt Increased Water Rates.)	
_____)	ORDER NO 4411a

On February 21, 1978, the TOWN OF CHESTER (Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an Order authorizing the Applicant to increase its water rates to provide revenues to pay off the overruns experienced in the two major improvement projects.

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by Applicant in support of its application and deeming itself fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A notice of proposed public hearing to be held, if requested, was published in the March 16, 1978, edition of the Liberty County Times, Chester, Montana. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by April 13, 1978, an appropriate order would be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.

2. No requests for a hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.

3. On January 31, 1978, the Town Council of the Town of Chester passed an emergency resolution setting water rates at the proposed level.

4. The Town alleges it suffered an overrun of \$40,502.00 on its Project I, because of very adverse conditions and contractor problems.

5. The Town alleges it suffered an overrun of \$14,549.65 on its Project II, because funds were used to rebuild the pumping station at Lake Elwell and to replace the stand pipe in the water tower.

6. The overruns are in the form of registered warrants held by the Liberty Bank of Montana in the total amount of \$55,051.65.

7. On July 7, 1978 the City Attorney for the Applicant requested a corrective order to reflect the proper amount that is provided the Rural Water Line Lessors in compliance with the Town's emergency ordinance No. 78-1.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The increase applied for is needed to insure continued service to Applicant's customers.

2. The resulting rate levels are reasonable and just.

ORDER

1. The following monthly rate schedule be amended as follows:

Rural water line lessors:

Per month-metered:

First 5,000 gallons	\$ -0-
Next 1,000 gallons	\$12.00
Next 1,000 gallons	\$ 2.50
Succeeding 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.20

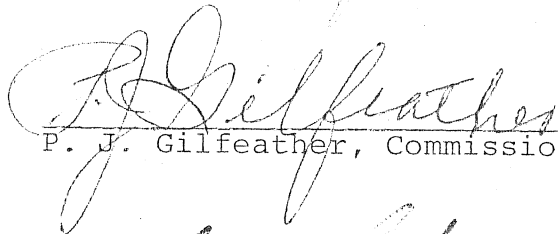
DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana, on July 17, 1978

by a 5 - 0 vote.

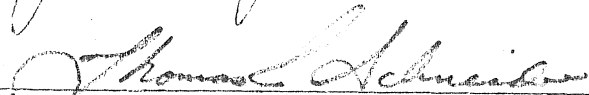
BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION:



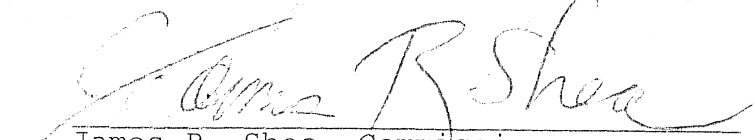
Gordon E. Bollinger, Chairman



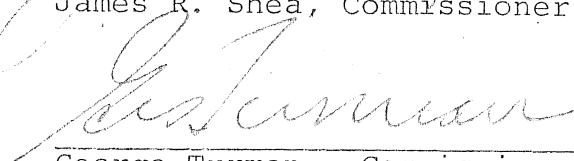
P. J. Gilfeather, Commissioner



Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner



James R. Shea, Commissioner



George Turman, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill
Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTICE: You are entitled to judicial review of the final decision in this matter. If no Motion For Reconsideration is filed, judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within thirty (30) days from the service of this order. If a Motion For Reconsideration is filed, a Commission order is final for purpose of appeal upon the entry of a ruling on that motion, or upon the passage of ten (10) days following the filing of that motion. cf. the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, esp. Section 82-4216, RCM 1947; and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38-2.2(64)-P2750, ARM.